

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A solid oxide fuel cell comprising:
a first perovskite solid electrolyte layer exhibiting mixed conductivity and having oxygen ion conduction as main conduction under operational condition of the solid oxide fuel cell;
a fuel electrode provided on one surface of the first solid electrolyte layer;
an air electrode provided on the opposite side of the first solid electrolyte layer;
and
a second solid electrolyte layer provided between the first solid electrolyte layer and the air electrode, and having a lower ratio of conduction by holes and higher ratio of conduction by oxygen ions of the conductive carriers of electrolyte such as ions, electrons, and holes than that of the first solid electrolyte layer under the operational condition of the solid oxide fuel cell.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein assuming that oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and a thickness of the first solid electrolyte layer are respectively σ_p , t_{po} and L_p , and oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and a thickness of the second solid electrolyte layer are respectively σ_c , t_{co} and L_c , the formula below is satisfied:

$$L_p/(t_{po} \cdot \sigma_p) > L_c/(t_{co} \cdot \sigma_c)$$

Claim 3 (currently amended): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 1,
wherein assuming that tpo is an oxygen ion transport number of the first solid
electrolyte layer;

σ_c , Lc and tco are respectively total conductivity, a thickness and an oxygen ion
transport number of the second electrolyte layer;

J, E0 are respectively a load electric current density and theoretical value of OCV
(Open Circuit Voltage) of the solid oxide fuel cell,

the formula below is satisfied:

$$J \cdot Lc / (tco \cdot \sigma_c) < (tco - tpo) \cdot E_0.$$

Claim 4 (original): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 1,
wherein the first perovskite solid electrolyte layer is made of an LaGa-based
perovskite compound represented by a composition formula of
 $La_{2-x-y}Ln_xA_yGa_{1-z}B_zO_{3-0.5(x+y+z)}$,

the Ln is one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Y, Yb, Gd,
Sm and Nd,

the A is one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Sr, Ba, and
Ca,

the B is one or two elements selected from the group consisting of Mg and Zn,
and

the x is set in a range of 0.05 to 0.15, y in a range of 0.05 to 0.15, and z in the
range a 0.05 to 0.25.

Claim 5 (original): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein the second solid electrolyte layer is made of stabilized zirconia, or alternatively a ceria based oxide.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A solid oxide fuel cell comprising:
a first perovskite solid electrolyte layer;
an air electrode provided on one surface of the first solid electrolyte layer;
a fuel electrode provided on the opposite side of the first solid electrolyte layer;
and

a third solid electrolyte layer provided between the first solid electrolyte layer and the fuel electrode and having a lower ratio of conduction by electrons and protons and higher ratio of conduction by oxygen ions of the conductive carriers of electrolyte such as ions, electrons, and holes than that of the first solid electrolyte layer, under the operational condition of the solid oxide fuel cell.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 6,
wherein assuming that oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and the thickness of the first solid electrolyte layer are respectively σ_p , t_{po} and L_p , and oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and the thickness of the third solid electrolyte layer are respectively σ_a , t_{ao} and L_a , the formula below is satisfied:

$$L_p/(t_{po} \cdot \sigma_p) > L_a/(t_{ao} \cdot \sigma_a)$$

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 6,
wherein assuming that t_{po} is an oxygen ion transport number of the first solid electrolyte layer;

σ_a , La and t_{ao} are respectively total conductivity, a thickness and an oxygen ion transport number of the third electrolyte layer;

J, E₀ are respectively a load electric current density and theoretical value of OCV (Open Circuit Voltage) of the solid oxide fuel cell,

the formula below is satisfied:

$$J \cdot La / (t_{ao} \cdot \sigma_a) < (t_{ao} - t_{po}) \cdot E_0$$

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 6,
wherein the first perovskite solid electrolyte layer is made of an LaGa based perovskite compound represented by a composition formula of $La_{2-x-y}Ln_xA_yGa_{1-z}B_zO_3 \cdot 0.5(x+y+z)$,

the Ln is one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Y, Yb, Gd, Sm, and Nd,

the A is one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Sr, Ba, and Ca,

the B is one or two elements selected from the group consisting of Mg and Zn, and

the x is set in a range of 0.05 to 0.15 , the y in a range of 0.05 to 0.15, and the z in a range of 0.05 to 0.25.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 6, wherein the second solid electrolyte layer is made of stabilized zirconia, alternatively a ceria based oxide.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): A solid oxide fuel cell comprising:
a first perovskite solid electrolyte layer;

an air electrode provided on one side of the first solid electrolyte layer;
a fuel electrode provided on the opposite side of the first solid electrolyte layer;
a second solid electrolyte layer provided between the first solid electrolyte layer
and the air electrode and having a lower ratio of conduction by holes and higher ratio of
conduction by oxygen ions of the conductive carriers of electrolyte such as ions,
electrons, and holes than that of the first solid electrolyte layer under the operational
condition of the solid oxide fuel cell; and
a third solid electrolyte layer provided between the first solid electrolyte layer and
the fuel electrode and having a lower ratio of conduction by electrons and hydrogen ions
and higher ratio of conduction by oxygen ions of the conductive carriers of electrolyte
such as ions, electrons, and holes than that of the first solid electrolyte layer under the
operational condition of the solid oxide fuel cell.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 11,
wherein assuming that oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and
the thickness of the first solid electrolyte layer are respectively σ_p , t_{po} and L_p ,
oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and the thickness of the
second solid electrolyte layer are respectively σ_c , t_{co} and L_c , and
oxygen ion conductivity, oxygen ion transport number and the thickness of the
third electrolyte layer are respectively σ_a , t_{ao} and L_a , the formula below is satisfied: -

$$L_p/(t_{po} \cdot \sigma_p) > L_c/(t_{co} \cdot \sigma_c) + L_a/(t_{ao} \cdot \sigma_a)$$

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 11,
wherein assuming that t_{po} is an oxygen ion transport number of the first solid
electrolyte layer;

σ_c , L_c and t_{co} are respectively total conductivity, a thickness and an oxygen ion transport number of the second electrolyte layer;

σ_a , L_a and t_{ao} are respectively total conductivity, a thickness and an oxygen ion transport number of the third electrolyte layer;

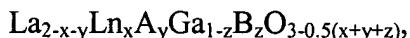
t_{cao} is smaller oxygen ion transport number of t_{co} or t_{ao} ;

J , E_0 are respectively a load electric current density and theoretical value of OCV (Open Circuit Voltage) of the solid oxide fuel cell,

the formula below is satisfied:

$$(t_{cao} - t_{po}) \cdot E_0 > J \cdot (L_c / (t_{co} \cdot \sigma_c) + L_a / (t_{ao} \cdot \sigma_a))$$

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 11, wherein the perovskite solid electrolyte is made of an LaGa-based perovskite compound represented by a composition formula of



the Ln is one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Y, Yb, Gd, Sm, and Nd,

the A is one or more elements selected from the group consisting of Sr, Ba, and Ca,

the B is one or two elements selected from the group consisting of Mg and Zn, and

the x is set in a range of 0.05 to 0.15, the y in the a range of 0.05 to 0.15, and the z in a range of 0.05 to 0.25.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The solid oxide fuel cell according to claim 11, wherein the second solid electrolyte layer is made of stabilized zirconia, or alternatively a ceria-

based compound, and the third solid electrolyte layer is made of stabilized zirconia, or alternatively a ceria-based compound.